

Music Development Plans for Letchmore Infants' and Nursery School 2026/27

Overview

Academic year that this summary covers	2026/2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Debbie Hodgson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Joga Shocker Governor
Name of local music hub	Stevenage Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Almonds Hill Junior School Hillborough Junior School

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our learners across three areas: curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences. It also includes what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our learners' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time and how much time is spent teaching music.

At Letchmore Infants' and Nursery School, we believe that music is a powerful and unique form of communication that can inspire, motivate and bring joy to our youngest learners. Our music curriculum is designed to ignite a lifelong love of music whilst developing essential skills in listening, performing, composing and appraising.

Our Intent

Following the Model Music Curriculum, we provide a carefully sequenced music education that ensures all pupils, from nursery through to Year 2, develop their musical understanding progressively. Our curriculum is built on the principle that every child can achieve in music, regardless of their starting point or background.

We aim to:

- **Build musical foundations** through regular singing, listening and movement activities that develop pitch, rhythm and pulse awareness
- **Develop confident performers** who can sing songs, play tuned and untuned instruments, and perform with others
- **Foster creativity** by giving children opportunities to explore sounds, create their own musical ideas and compose simple pieces
- **Cultivate musical appreciation** by exposing children to a diverse range of musical styles, traditions and cultures
- **Ensure accessibility** so that all pupils, including those with SEND, can participate fully and make progress in music

Our Approach

We use the Model Music Curriculum as a guide to support our pupils' learning, as it is sequenced to support learning and designed to support pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Our curriculum provides at least one hour per week of high-quality music teaching, where children will experience:

- **Singing:** Regular opportunities to sing songs, rhymes and chants, developing vocal control and expression
- **Listening:** Exposure to a wide range of music from different times, places and traditions
- **Composing:** Creating their own musical patterns and sequences using voices, body percussion and instruments
- **Performing:** Playing untuned and tuned percussion instruments, both individually and as part of a group
- **Musical vocabulary:** Learning to use simple musical language to describe and discuss music

Music at Letchmore is taught on a weekly basis through music lessons (60 minutes).

Children learn the interrelated dimensions of music in Early Years children learn to play a range of percussion instruments. Children in Year 1 children learned to play the Boom whackers and begin the foundations of learning to play the glockenspiel. We have thirty glockenspiels to enable that all children in the class can learn together. In Year 2 the children take part in Ocarina lessons lead by a specialist music teacher. Children learn to compose and perform and take part in the English National Opera's Finish This project. Our submission in 2025/26 was selected by the English National Opera out of 300 submissions to be made into an animation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyIJfUGUvNA&feature=youtu.be>

The children at Letchmore experience live performances during the year with whole school Rock Steady Music School concerts each term. The children in Year Two perform to their peers at the end of their full term of Ocarina lessons.

Each year group has a listening passport that exposes the children to a wide range of music genres as recommended in the Model Music Curriculum. In addition we have a Musician of the Month which has a three year cycle which means our children will experience a wide range of musicians during their time at Letchmore.

The Model Music Curriculum is an ambitious and dynamic programme, children at Letchmore experience music during their daily activities and have access to music making during their continuous provision. In addition, music is a key part of our Letchmore Values assembly and linked to our value of the month.

Children are able to use technology to create music using purple mash on chrome books.

Part B: Co-Curricular

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

The Model Music Curriculum (MMC) recommends that children are exposed to a different variety of music genres and each year group has a MMC listening passport. This includes all of the recommended listening and uses the BBC Ten Pieces to support this. The passport introduces our children to a variety of different cultures and musical artist. This is further supported by our three year cycle of musician of the month. At Letchmore we believe in learning through play and have continuous provision from Nursery through to Year Two. Children have access to musical instruments to create music during this time. In addition they have access to technology to create music. The whole school takes part in our weekly singing assemblies fostering a sense of school community. We support our higher attainers to access the Music Hub to further develop their musical skills.

Part C: Musical Experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Children at Letchmore experience live performances each term with a Rock Steady Concert.

Children in Year Two perform to peer sand parents at the end of each term following their Ocarina lessons with a specialist music teacher.

Children perform to parents at Holy Trinity Church for our Christmas celebrations.

Each year group perform an end of year performance to their parents and the school at the end of the school year.

All children experience a live pantomime performance in the school hall each December.

For all these events, children across the school are performing and are part of the audience.

There is no charge to parents for any of the events.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

Look to establish a KS1 lunchtime choir.

Look to secure funding for the specialist teaching of Ocarina's for Year Two.

Apply to the English National Opera's Finish This project.

Look to secure funding for the purchase of new instruments to enhance our music learning.

Focus monitoring on supporting development of teacher/teaching assistant subject knowledge around notation and interrelated dimensions of music.

Embed and secure learning of our SEND children through our bespoke SEND Music Intervention to be delivered throughout the school.

Further Information

Subject leader to carry out a book look in the Autumn term, Lesson observations across the school in Spring term and planning scrutiny in the Summer term.

Subject leader to meet on a termly basis with subject cluster and environment walk with to ensure quality of music provision at Letchmore.

Subject Leader to support Early Careers Teachers to deliver high-quality music lessons.